

The Enterprise

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BUSINESS IS GETTING BETTER

Men whose occupation it is to keep their fingers on the pulse of national conditions report with a great deal of confidence that the outlook for business is better than they had expected to find at this time.

One of the most reliable indexes of business confidence is the volume of national advertising. Six of the largest advertising agencies recently reported that not only had there been no cancellations among their advertising clients, but that many of them had increased their advertising appropriations by from 10 to 15 percent.

There are several reasons why what looked in November like the beginning of a business depression did not develop as such things have done in the past. One was, of course, that the sudden slump in stock values did not reflect any business or industrial condition but was the natural reaction from a speculative boom in which stocks were sold at from twenty to forty or fifty times their net earnings.

With the improvements in transportation facilities which have been made since the Armistice, business requires less capital investment in goods than used to be the case. One of the great mail-order houses last year reported an inventory of only \$77,000,000 as against \$121,000,000 in 1921, yet the total volume of business done on the smaller inventory was four times as great as when the larger stock was carried.

Because this system of retailing has become almost universal, business credits were not materially curtailed even when the situation looked worst, and today are almost as free as they have ever been. The trend of wages is still upward, unemployment is diminishing, and the general public will soon be, if it is not already, in better buying position than ever.

KEEP UP THE GOOD ROADS PROGRAM

This is the time of the year when the man with an automobile wishes he had a horse or a good team of mules whenever he turns off the main paved roads. We have gone a long way since George Washington's time, when it took him two weeks to get from the national capital, then in New York, to his home in Virginia, on account of the bad condition of the roads.

One of the first acts of Thomas Jefferson's administration was to inaugurate a system of national paved highways. But the railroad was invented along in the 1820's, and road-building began to languish; the railroad was going to take its place. Our fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers continued to pull along in the mud until the automobile made better roads imperative. The past fifteen years have seen road-building develop into one of the nations major industries, and this year's program is vaster than any that have gone before.

The good work should not stop until every farm home in the nation has a paved motor road passing its gate. Already there is some idle talk to the effect that the airplane will make further extension of thorough motor roads unnecessary. Nobody takes that sort of talk very seriously as yet, but it may become an argument in ten years or so against the appropriation of further Federal funds for roadbuilding. That was what happened when the railroad came in, but we know more than our ancestors did and probably will not be felled as they were.

TRIAL BY JURY

A great deal of fuss is being stirred up in some quarters over what is presented as being an attempt to deprive American citizens of the right of trial by jury, in connection with the enforcement of the prohibition law.

The facts of the matter are that the National Commission on Law Enforcement and Observance, of which Hon. George W. Wickersham, former Attorney General of the United States, is chairman, in a report to President Hoover recommended that United States Commissioners be empowered to act as magistrates for the trial of minor infractions of the law, to relieve the pressure upon the Federal Courts. "We think it is possible to provide for a hearing... before a magistrate, provided trial by jury... is preserved to the accused," is the exact language of the report. Mr. Wickersham goes on to suggest that in cases where the accused pleads guilty no trial is necessary, and the Commissioner could save the Court's time by reporting the fact to a qualified judge for sentence, and that where the plea is "not guilty" the Commissioner could hear the evidence and report the recommendation to the Court, "provided further that if conviction is recommended by the Commissioner, the accused may within three days after filing of the Commissioner's report... demand trial by jury."

Those are the recommendations which some of those who are opposed to the enforcement of prohibition are trying to twist into an effort to do away with trial by jury. The situation which would be created would be simply extending to the Federal courts the practice which prevails in all state and local judicial systems. Comparatively few persons accused of misdemeanors under State laws ever get a jury trial. It is their right to demand it, but how often do they avail themselves of that right? Did anyone ever hear of a jury trial for a simple violation of the automobile speed laws, for example, or for fishing without a license? Yet everybody charged with any such minor offense could ask for and have a jury trial if he insisted upon it.

After reading the news dispatches from Chicago, U. S. A., the people of Chicago, South Australia, voted to change the name of their town to Booth, after the founder of the Salvation Army. It that doesn't make Chicago ashamed of itself, Chicago, Kentucky, might threaten to change its name to King George and see if that will have any effect.

The Lancer

Harry S. Russell

Tomorrow, Thursday, if things go as predicted, may be remembered as "Red Thursday" in the United States. Secret Service men have uncovered what they say is a nation-wide plot for a "red" demonstration tomorrow, March 6. I haven't been able to ascertain why March 6 was favored but just to be in tune with the happenings I am using the red part of my typewriter ribbon to set this down.

If we are to believe our Secret Service men these minor "red" riots and demonstrations of the past few weeks were merely rehearsals. The big show will get started on the morrow.

Sad as it may seem it is not likely that there will be any demonstration here. And if there were and the shout of "Red" hit the air most people would think it a campaign move on the part of Henry Gill, Chestertown's most famous red, who is seeking town council honors.

Take for instance the Literary Digest Poll on Prohibition. If all the votes go in as did the three I have had the fortune to see the poll will end in a triple deadlock. (Note: To avoid all complications and possible wagers as to how I voted let it be said that I didn't receive a ballot.)

One voter in the poll, and I saw him mark his ballot, was a stand-patter. He voted to retain things just as they are. Another, number two, liked a modification plan. He was in favor of light wines and beers.

Number three, however, took the cake and the knife with which to cut it. He marked for repeal and added that he'd like to see a saloon on every corner.

I am not superstitious. But as a member of the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company I am a believer in the "cycle of three." In plainer words I believe that where there are two there are bound to be three.

First, local smoke-eaters in particular are great adherents to the "cycle of three." And, as some of the old timers say, why shouldn't they be. Time and again they have had two fires in a period of a day or so and then the third comes rolling along before you can say Jack Robinson in Sengalese.

It happened this week. A fire on Friday, a fire on Sunday and a fire on Tuesday. The firemen were all set for the Tuesday blaze. They knew it was coming.

Life, the funny magazine, is featuring front covers by different artists in which the artist depicts his idea of the typical American Girl. The query under the latest is: "Do you know a girl who looks like this?"

And the answer I am told is "NO." And one might add, and is justified, "If I did I'd shoot her."

Yesterday was March 4 and marked the first anniversary of Herbert Hoover as president of the United States. And the odds are pretty enormous that at least 365 times during the past year he has wished that he still had naught but the title of "Engineer."

In Detroit five couples have been dancing for 107 days. They are practically dead spiritually, mentally and physically. Authorities have been unable to stop the dance because of some legal technicality. These five couples should team up with the orchestra that plays for the dances at the country club. If the work of the orchestra in its appearance here means any thing it could easily play 107 days without stopping.

This is one of the current "steward" stories. It indicates a sure way to differentiate between some of the college professors and their students. If you can't tell which is whom just ask for a definition of "IT." If the answer comes back "It is a pronoun"—then he's a professor.

Which reminds me of the one they use to tell a few years back. It seems that the head of the Washington College English Department and one of his worst students met on the way to the Gate tended by St. Peter. The professor, naturally, was the first to knock.

The query came, "Who is there?" The professor answered, "It is I."

St. Peter came back with, "Down stairs for you. We have more English teachers now than we can use."

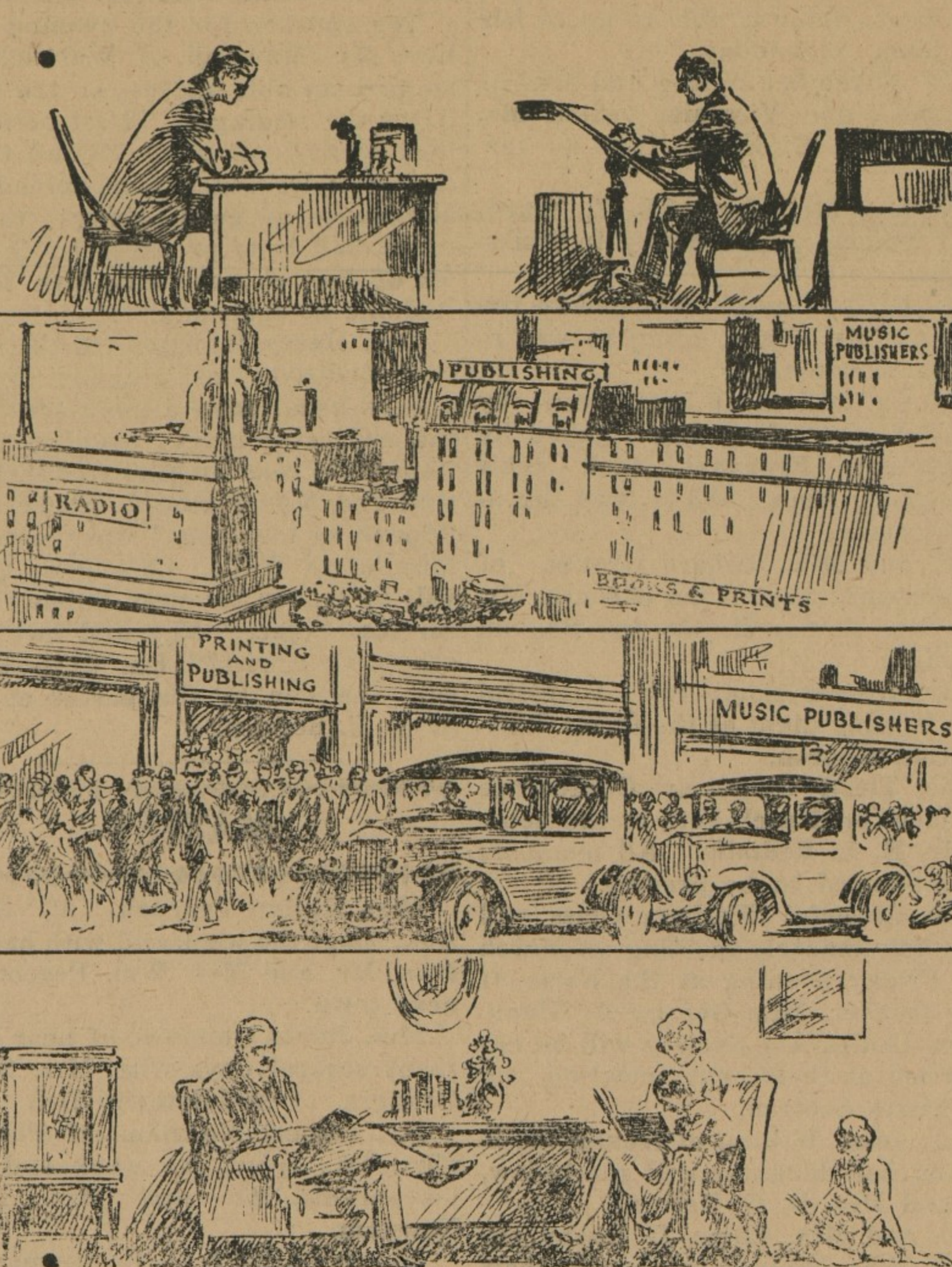
The student knocked. "Who is there?" came from inside the gate.

"It's me," answered the student.

"Come in," was the invitation of St. Peter. "You were a member of that bird's English class and you had your Hell on earth."

A Pictorial Editorial

By Albert T. Reid



In the creations of the Author, Artist, and Composer, the public finds its entertainment, information and education. These Creations represent property to those who produce them.

A vast industry, representing a turn over of more than a billion dollars annually is the direct outgrowth of this creative work—the printing and publishing business, music, the radio, and the movies.

This great business gives employment to hundreds of thousands of people, and yet the rights of those upon whose work this industry depends, are inadequately protected under our antiquated Copyright law.

A bill designed to set out these property rights and protect the rights of those who compose and create, is now before Congress.

If passed it will do much to stimulate these arts in our Country and the public will benefit.

Albert T. Reid

TODAY and TOMORROW

By Frank P. Stockbridge

ATHEISM

The Russian government's war against religion may prove the spur needed to unite all Christianity into making common cause against the enemies of God. Incredible as it sounds, the armed and disciplined minority which controls Russia has prohibited religious teaching and preaching, is seizing churches and converting them into museums and factories, is killing missionaries and confiscating the property of farmers who support the churches.

There have been many religious wars in history, but always each side has professed the fighting to be in the name of its own God. The organ of this anti-religious movement in Russia is a newspaper published in Moscow called "The Godless One." The avowed purpose is to stamp out all religion and destroy all faith.

Unless Christianity is to confess failure, a greater war than the world has ever seen is inevitable. It will be the war of all Christendom against the Godless rulers of Soviet Russia.

DUCKS

A Boston man went hunting in Maine. He shot ninety ducks. The other day he paid \$2,700 for them in the United States Court. Thirty dollars a duck. That is the fine imposed by the Federal government for killing either ducks, for which there is no open season.

Two hunters are informed of the Federal game laws which protect migratory birds. Before going out with a gun one is required, in most states, to take out a shooting license and to be informed about the state and local game laws. Any state game warden can give full information about the Federal game laws, also. Unless they as well as state laws are enforced there will soon be no game left to hunt.

G. R. Mills, one of the brothers, decided he wanted to do some good with his money. He gave a radio set to a crippled woman in the village. She got so much pleasure out of it that he gave some more radio sets to shut-ins. He goes so much out of that that he told other men of it and they began giving away radio sets. Out of that has grown the "We Follow Him" club with members all over the United States. Thousands of radios have been given to hospitals, to charitable institutions and to prisoners. All anyone has to do to become a member is to give a radio set to some "shut-in" invalid or prisoner and send his name to Mr. Mills.

CARS

There are approximately twenty-seven million families in the United States. There are about twenty-two million automobiles registered in the various states, including trucks, busses and other commercial vehicles. The average of passenger cars is about one car to every one and one-half families.

It will not be long before there will be as many passenger cars as there are families, and a high percentage of all families will own two cars. Little cars weighing only half as much as a Ford and costing a third less will be on the American market this year. More paved roads will tend to multiply cars. We can look forward to the day when nobody will walk except for exercise.

GIVING

Two brothers named Mills started a country weekly newspaper in Sudus, N. Y., about thirty years ago. They got into other enterprises, including electric light and power companies. They sold their power interests recently for several million dollars. But they still own and run the Sudus Record, still live in the little country town where they were born.

THE WAY OF LIFE

By Bruce Barton

THE 'JUST A LITTLE LATE CLUB'

When I was a commuter I sometimes went to the station early to watch the other commuters running for the train.

I came to know many of them by sight.

There were ladies and old men, inveterate visitors to the city, who arrived long before train-time.

There were business men, who arrived one minute ahead.

And—just as the gate was about to slam—there would come piling across the station the members of the Just a Little Late Club.

I used to sympathize with them at first, supposing them to be unfortunate who had missed a car or lost their watches.

But after two years of watching I knew different.

The membership of the Just a Little Late Club does not change from day to day. Membership is not a misfortune; it is a habit. And one of the most exasperating habits in the world.

I was lunching with a friend the other day when a "captain of industry" passed us. He began work twenty years ago as an office-boy, and today heads one of the great manufacturing concerns of his city.

"A wonderful fellow," said my friend. "Last year I had a long series of negotiations with him about the formation of a new company. It was necessary for us to meet practically every day for nearly three months. In all that time he was never late but twice, and then only for a few minutes. And each time he sent word to me from his office telling me that he would be late."

J. P. Morgan figured that every hour of his time was worth \$1,000, and he had no patience with men who were late for appointments, or who, when they came to see him, did not give him his money's worth in exchange for the time they took.

"It is not necessary for me to live," said Pompey, "but it is necessary that I be at a certain point at a certain time."

And Lord Nelson said: "I owe all my success in life to having been a quarter of an hour before my time."

I hold up the record of these famous men, in the faint hope that it may do some good.

And yet, it is hope is very faint. The habit of unpromptness is very tenacious.

If I am fortunate enough to be inside when the party gates are closed on the judgment-day, I shall know what to expect.

Five minutes later there will be a terrific battering on the gate. St. Peter may be surprised, but I shall not be.

When the gates swing open again, there will be—some of the most lovable and exasperating people who ever lived—panting, apologetic, explanatory to the last.

The coconut cow of the South Sea Islands is an apt name for those products. The coconut cow has been looking horns with our Alderneys and Holsteins for sometime now but with the price of butter and oleo about the same and the food value of butter being what it is, it would seem as though the four-legged gods held the trumps.

With all that has been written on the subject and placed before the public it is amazing that so many people forget that children need butter. It is a false economy to let a youngster go to the movies and save on the butter item in your budget. The youngster can see movies throughout the rest of his life but he has only one chance to build up a fine strong body and that is NOW.

Pictures of before and after are always interesting. If you have any snaps of roads before and after they were hard-surfaced the Kent County Chamber of Commerce would appreciate your sending them in to their headquarters along with any stories of human interest you may have in the same line.

It might be said of columnists as of after-dinner speakers, that if they were laid end to end it would be—a good thing.

Some member of St. Paul's Church told me I had never written up a St. Paul's banquet—or rather one where they had served. After eating the one last week at the Cal Club affair, I realize why I have refrained from doing it. I don't claim to be a master of words, I have only an unabridged dictionary and there aren't enough words in the English language to describe the cooking of that St. Paul crowd. But if you want something delicious, even if words fail to describe it, get in on the next dinner they serve. They cook and serve and how! And how you will eat. You couldn't help it. Its 100% plus.

TWENTY YEARS AGO IN THE ENTERPRISE

MARCH 2, 1910

Governor Crothers on Wednesday last made the following appointments for Kent County:

Justices of the Peace—Geo. C. Townsend, Lawrence R. VanSant, David R. Nickerson, Samuel W. Wallis, James M. Sutton, James M. Severson, Lewis S. Fowler, Abram S. Crawford, J. Cordray Loud, Frank C. Wilkins, William Wagner.

Notary Public—Charles Estes, Jesse E. Ireland, and Simon H. McCauley.

Coroner—John H. Greenwood.

School Commissioner—John N. Bennett.

The Chestertown Stars, a baseball club, will give a minstrel show in Stam's Hall, Saturday, March 12.

Wheat \$1.26. Corn 66 cents.

A new summer amusement park to be known as Dreamland Park, is to be opened near Betterson this summer.

The taxpayers of Millington have voted against allowing hog pens within the limits of the town. In doing this the Millingtonians have rid themselves of a great germ breeder.

Farmer's Institutes will be held in Chestertown on Friday, March 18th, and at Kennedyville on Saturday, March 19th.

At a special meeting of the Board of Visitors and Governors of Washington College held one day last week it was voted that the Normal Department at that institution be abolished provided that the state appropriation now received for this department could be retained and continued for the use of the college proper.

The Baltimore Sun of Sunday contained a picture of Captain W. Urie Cross of the Washington College baseball club. Twenty-four candidates reported to Captain Cross and were given a long talk by Athletic Director M. J. Thompson.

The schedule arranged by Manager Edward Crouch, 1910, of Elkton is now in the hands of the athletic committee and will be ready for publication soon.

The Chestertown High School is closed until next week because of scarlet fever in town.

A heavy rain and severe electrical storm visited this section on Monday night.